

House File 99 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 99

BY MOORE

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to approved courses of instruction for school
2 bus drivers.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 321.376, subsection 3, Code 2023, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 3. a. (1) A person applying for employment or employed as
4 a school bus driver shall successfully complete a department of
5 education approved course of instruction for school bus drivers
6 before or within the first six months of employment ~~and~~.

7 (2) The department of education shall accept proof that a
8 person successfully completed entry-level driver training in
9 accordance with section 321.188, subsection 1, paragraph "c",
10 if such training meets the requirements of 49 C.F.R. pt. 380,
11 Appendix C, and 49 C.F.R. pt. 380, Appendix D, as completion of
12 an approved course of instruction for school bus drivers.

13 (3) The department of education may adopt rules pursuant
14 to chapter 17A to establish requirements for providers of
15 entry-level driver training to comply with this paragraph.

16 b. A person employed as a school bus driver shall
17 successfully complete a department of education approved
18 course of instruction for school bus drivers at least every
19 twenty-four months thereafter.

20 c. If an employee fails to provide an employer with a
21 certificate of completion of the required school bus driver's
22 course authorized under paragraph "a", the driver's employer
23 shall report the failure to the department of education and
24 the employee's authorization to operate a school bus shall
25 be revoked. The department of education shall send notice
26 of the revocation to both the employee and the employer. A
27 person whose school bus authorization has been revoked under
28 this section shall not be issued another authorization until
29 certification of the completion of an approved school bus
30 driver's course in accordance with paragraph "a" is received by
31 the department of education.

32 EXPLANATION

33 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
34 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

35 Under current law, a person applying for employment or

1 employed as a school bus driver must successfully complete a
2 course of instruction for school bus drivers approved by the
3 department of education (DOE). The DOE establishes rules and
4 requirements for such instruction courses. The course must be
5 completed before or within the first six months of the person's
6 employment and at least every 24 months thereafter.

7 Beginning February 7, 2022, the federal motor carrier safety
8 administration requires persons seeking a commercial driver's
9 license (CDL) for the first time, persons seeking to upgrade
10 certain existing CDLs, and persons seeking to obtain a school
11 bus, passenger, or hazardous materials endorsement to complete
12 entry-level driver training (ELDT).

13 This bill requires DOE to accept proof that a person
14 successfully completed ELDT as completion of an approved course
15 of instruction for school bus drivers so long as that ELDT
16 contains passenger endorsement training curriculum and school
17 bus endorsement training curriculum.

18 The bill does not change the requirement for a person
19 employed as a school bus driver to successfully complete a DOE
20 approved course of instruction for school bus drivers at least
21 every 24 months.

22 The bill makes corresponding and organizational changes to
23 Code section 321.276(3).